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2 We claim:

3 1. A deck for mowers comprising:

4 an upper deck having a raised central portion and sloping downward in all
5 directions;

6
7 a right end and a left end of said upper deck positioned downward in a smooth
8 radius whereby a left skirt and a right skirt can be attached to said left end and said
9 right end respectively;

10
11 a lower deck positioned under said upper deck and joined to said upper deck at
12 the outer perimeter of said upper deck;

13
14 a frame member positioned between said upper deck and said lower deck in a
15 central position whereby multiple sections are created for torsional stiffness; and

16
17 front and rear cross members attached to said upper deck and said lower deck at
18 the front and rear of both said upper deck and said lower deck where said upper
19 deck and said lower deck meet.

20
21 2. The deck for mowers of Claim 1 wherein said rear cross member has centrally

- 1 located J-shaped pieces.
- 2
- 3 3. The deck for mowers of Claim 1 wherein said front cross member is bounded by
- 4 said left skirt and said right skirt.
- 5
- 6 4. The deck for mowers of Claim 1 wherein said left skirt and said right skirt further
- 7 comprise an apex at an upper corner of said skirts.
- 8
- 9 5. The deck for mowers of Claim 4 wherein said left skirt and said right skirt each
- 10 comprise a skid shoe that borders the outer bottom edge of said skirts and extends
- 11 from the midsection of said skirts to the front of said skirts at said apex.
- 12
- 13 6. The deck for mowers of Claim 1 further comprising a hitch assembly supported
- 14 by left and right channel members and said front cross member.
- 15
- 16 7. The deck for mowers of Claim 6 wherein said hitch assembly is positioned
- 17 perpendicular to said front cross member.
- 18
- 19 8. A deck for mowers comprising:
- 20 an upper deck;
- 21 a lower deck positioned below said upper deck;

1 a front cross member positioned forward and beneath said upper deck and
2 said lower deck defining a front perimeter;

3 a rear cross member positioned rearward and beneath said upper deck and
4 said lower deck defining a rear perimeter;

5 a left skirt and a right skirt positioned to opposing sides and beneath said
6 upper deck and said lower deck;

7 wherein said upper deck comprises:

8 a horizontal segment positioned centrally on said upper deck with its length
9 parallel to said rear cross member and having a front and rear side;

10 a first sloping section sloping downward from said rear side of said horizontal
11 segment to said rear cross member;

12 a second sloping section sloping downward from said front side of said
13 horizontal segment to said front cross member;

14 a first sloping end sloping downward from a first end of said horizontal
15 segment to a first lip positioned adjacent said left skirt;

16 a second sloping end sloping downward from a second end of said horizontal
17 segment to a second lip positioned adjacent said right skirt;

18 at least two sloping diagonal sections sloping diagonally from said horizontal
19 segment to said first lip; and

20 at least two sloping diagonal sections sloping diagonally from said horizontal
21 segment to said second lip.

1 9. A deck for mowers comprising:
2 an upper section;
3 a central section positioned adjacent said upper section;
4 a lower section positioned below said upper section;
5 a front cross member positioned forward and beneath said upper section and
6 said lower section defining a front perimeter;
7 a rear cross member positioned rearward and beneath said upper section and
8 said lower section defining a rear perimeter;
9 a first skirt and a second skirt positioned to opposing sides and beneath said
10 upper section and said lower section;
11 wherein said central section comprises:
12 a horizontal segment positioned centrally with its length parallel to said rear
13 cross member and having a front and rear side;
14 a first sloping end sloping downward from a first end of said horizontal
15 segment to a first lip positioned adjacent said first skirt;
16 a second sloping end sloping downward from a second end of said horizontal
17 segment to a second lip positioned adjacent said second skirt; and
18 wherein said upper section comprises:
19 a first sloping section sloping downward from said rear side of said horizontal
20 segment to said rear cross member;
21 a second sloping section sloping downward from said front side of said

1 horizontal segment to said front cross member;
2 at least two sloping diagonal sections sloping diagonally from said horizontal
3 segment to said first lip; and
4 at least two sloping diagonal sections sloping diagonally from said horizontal segment
5 to said second lip.